

The Indiana Teamster

"Serving the Indiana Teamster Movement"

Vol. VI

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No.

LAWYERS DISCUSS TAFT-HARTLEY ACT



Business representatives of Indiana Teamster unions, attending the July meeting of their Indiana State Drivers' Council in the Antlers Hotel were informed by Attorneys Robert D. Malarney (standing) and Andrew Jacobs (with suspenders and pipe immediately in front of him) as to the various duties, obligations and penalties imposed upon organized labor by the Taft-Hartley Act. The two attorneys had attended the conference of AFL lawyers in Washington, called to consider the new law, and reported on some of the policies which are to be adopted by the AFL in respect to activities under various provisions of that law. A question and answer session, which held delegates to the afternoon meeting long past their dinner hour, was conducted by Attorney Edward F. Fillenwarth. Thomas E. Flynn (right center), assistant to International President Tobin, introduced the counsellors, and Charles Miller (sitting across aisle from Mr. Flynn), of Local 417, Vincennes, vice-president of the Council, presided over the business meeting.

Drivers' Council Endorses Union Life Insurance Co.

The Indiana State Drivers' Council voted at its July meeting to endorse the principal of group insurance for the respective Locals of The Union Labor Life Insurance Co.

Vote was taken on motion of Edward F. Carlson (716) seconded by E. J. Williams (135) after the plan had been explained by William S. Collins, assistant agency manager of the company.

Mr. Collins explained that The Union Labor Life Insurance Co. is owned by the American Federation of Labor and its affiliated Unions and was formed for the purpose of providing life insurance at as nearly as cost as possible consistent with safety and the requirements of law for trade unionists and their families. The company has over 160 millions of paid for Ordinary and Group Life Insurance in force and has made a phenomenal record in the life insurance world since its inception and formation under the leadership of Samuel Gompers. Matthew Woll, Second Vice President of the American Federation of Labor is President of the company and its directors are men who hold high positions in the councils of Labor.

Mr. Collins said that one of the reasons the company organized was to provide group insurance at low cost to organized wage earners through their union membership. Until the company was founded, it was quite impossible to do so under the laws of the various states. However, these laws have been amended and in the last several years, trade unions have been in a position to provide the same, cheap, beneficial coverage that could only be furnished formerly through the employer relationship.

For All Regardless of Age

Because of its ownership and because it was designed to serve the trade union movement, the company offers a trade union policy which is second to none. Under most conditions, all members of the Union are covered regardless of age, physical condition, regardless of whether they are employed or unemployed, and whether they are retired or superannuated as long as they are members of the Local Union to be insured.

The cost of the insurance depends upon the average insurable age of the members, but it has been the experience of The Union

40-HOUR WEEK FOR OIL DRIVERS

HAMMOND—An estimated 250 oil drivers of the Calumet region, affiliates of Hammond Local 362, General Drivers' union (AFL), have accepted contract proposals of Chicago-Calumet petroleum contractors and gained a wage increase in the form of a shortened work week.

The offer from industrial contractors was accepted by Chicago Local 705 of the Truck Drivers, Oil Drivers, Filling Station and Platform Workers' union which wields majority vote in the union district of which Local 362 drivers are a part.

Oil drivers heretofore employed on a 48-hour week will work 40 hours under the new agreement.

Room in Frisco for Hoosiers

Hoosiers attending the Teamsters international convention at San Francisco will have headquarters in a room to be provided by the Indiana State Drivers' Council. The council voted at its last meeting to obtain the room and instructed the secretary-treasurer to make all arrangements.

Rhoads Is Elected To State Meeting

EVANSVILLE—Lloyd Rhoads, of Teamsters Local 11 was one of four delegates elected to represent the Evansville Central Labor Union at the annual convention of the Indiana State Federation of Labor at Terre Haute beginning Sept. 16. Others are Chester Smallwood, John L. Rohlfert and Fred Wentzel. The delegation will be headed by John G. Soucie, a vice-president of the State Federation and president of the Central Labor Union.

Rabanus Reports Raises for 543

Teamsters Local 543 has completed negotiations with city freight haulers in Lafayette and its vicinity giving drivers 18 cents an hour pay increase and dock workers 11 cents, according to Glen H. Rabanus, reporting to the State Drivers' Council.

Local 543 also has obtained wage increase of 15 cents an hour across the board for furniture movers, Rabanus reported.

Champion Truck Drivers To Compete in ATA Rodeos

Two of Joe Williams' boys who are champion truck drivers, in their respective classifications, will attempt to retain their titles this year in the rodeos of the American Trucking Associations.

The champions are Walter Cline, driver for Ellis Trucking Co., Indianapolis, who has twice won the Indiana semi-trailer trophy, and Charles (Chuck) Goins of Trucking, Inc., Indianapolis, who has taken the national straight truck trophy two times. Both are members of Teamsters Local 135.

To retain these cups permanently requires a third victory for each of the drivers.

Cline's opportunity will be at the state preliminaries, to be held in Indianapolis, Sept. 25 and 26, in connection with the annual convention of the Indiana Motor Truck Association.

Goins will have to drive farther, however, and win both the preliminary and the national contest, scheduled to be held in Los Angeles, Cal. in October.

In announcing the competitions, "The Fifth Wheel" official publication of the IMTA says:

The Rodeo is a safe driver competition, a contest of knowledge and skill to determine the champion truck drivers of the United States. It brings out not only how drivers handle equipment, but also what they know about safety, first-aid, courtesy, and efficiency—qualities on which motor transport the country over lays chief emphasis.

National winners will be decided at Los Angeles in October, when the finals again will be a featured highlight of the annual fall convention of the American Trucking Associations.

Before reaching the finals, drivers must win in a preliminary contest conducted in their home state. These state championships usually entail some very stiff competition.

Competition in state contests is divided into such classes as (a) straight truck class, (b) tractor semi-trailer class.

Along with receiving all-expense-paid trips to the National, state winners also may be rewarded with trophies and other prizes. At the National, the American Trucking Associations' truck driving championship gold medal is presented to winners of state championship contests.

Performance of contestants in each event is appraised by a group of expert judges. Drivers are given a rating for each event and the sum total of the ratings is the final score.

As a token of his championship (Continued on page 4)

NO. 135 SIGNS FARMERS CO-OP

Gasoline drivers employed by the Indiana Farm Bureau will receive increased wages and improved working conditions as the result of a new contract just signed in the office of Emmett J. Williams, secretary-treasurer of Teamsters Local 135, Indianapolis.

C. B. Birdsong, head of Teamsters Local 215, Evansville, was in on the contract, in behalf of farm bureau employees belonging to his local.

Mr. Williams has reported to the State Drivers' Council signing a new contract with Linde Air Products Co. which gives the union employees a nice wage increase.

The NAM Lied Again

On June 30, 1946, the battle against post-war inflation was lost. It was at midnight on that date that the wartime stabilization act, under which OPA had done a remarkable job of keeping prices in line, lapsed. Congress had passed a fake extension bill and President Truman had vetoed it.

While Congress wrangled over terms of a bill he would sign, prices were free to rise, and did rise. By the time the new bill had been passed and signed in late July, the forces of its destruction had been set in motion. The pretense of price control then lasted only a few months. The battle had been lost at midnight on June 30.

This was how most of our Congressmen leaders wanted it. This was how the farm lobby and the National Association of Manufacturers and the automobile dealers and the textile mills and a lot of other special interests wanted it. Just let the benevolent forces of free competition get to work, they said, and consumers would find themselves fully protected against inflation.

Well, how has it worked out? How does inflation look a year after the balloon went up?

Representative Jesse P. Wolcott, of Michigan one of the most influential enemies of OPA in the House, told Congress a year ago that weakening controls would "produce only a healthy price rise."

The wholesale commodity price index closed June 17, 1947 at 258.74, compared with 198.33 a year ago, a rise of 30 per cent. How "healthy" was it to whittle last year's wholesale dollar down to 70 cents, Representative Wolcott?

Senator Kenneth Wherry of Nebraska, denounced Chester Bowles last year for "trying to scare us." He proclaimed that "without price control, meat will cost less than today."

On July 1 last year a Chicago chain store advertised pot roast at 34 cents; last week the same store advertised pot roast at 45 cents says the Chicago "Sun." Taken together, all meats consumed by average families are up 60 per cent. Sirloin steak was 55 cents last June, is 73 cents today. Any more predictions, Senator Wherry?

Senator Moore of Oklahoma was a leading enemy of OPA. Its operations had been such, he said a year ago, "as seriously impair our economy, weaken the morale of our people, destroy respect for government..."

Edwin A. Lahey recently figured out that an average manufacturing worker at present wage rates works 12 hours for a package of food costing \$14.24. In 1941 at wages and prices then prevailing, the same man would have worked nine hours and 35 minutes for the same package of food. What has that done to the morale of our people, Senator Moore?

Without price control, the NAM told the country a year ago, "production will mount rapidly and through free competition prices will quickly adjust themselves to levels that consumers are willing to pay."

Coffee is selling at 49 cents; a year ago, it was 29 cents. Five pounds of sugar cost 35 cents then, 47 cents now. Soap is up 62 per cent, lard 72 per cent. Wheat sold at \$1.60 a bushel last June, \$2.17 a bushel this June. Drug and pharmaceutical products are up 67 per cent. Cotton goods rose 39 per cent in 10 months. How fast is "quickly" NAM? Any more predictions.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A recent survey reveals that there are now 45 companies with assets of more than a billion dollars each, more than double the number in the boom year of 1929.

Banks and insurance companies top the list. Metropolitan Life, with assets of more than \$9 billions, is first, and Bell Telephone second, with more than \$7 billions. Several railroads are in the select club.

The Shop Steward

The importance of the shop steward has increased greatly in recent years. Although in many unions he is down near the bottom rung of the ladder, nevertheless he can be a key position and one of the greatest importance to his fellow workers and to the success of his union. He is the gear-wheel between worker and management in their day-to-day relationships in the shop or plant.

As the elected union representative of his fellow workers, the shop steward has a most important job. He is really the backbone of the union—the link between each individual worker in his department and the employer and also between the workers and their union.

The fact that he has been chosen by the workers of his department to represent them shows they have faith in him and respect his judgment. They think he's the man to get the best deal for them.

Like a congressman, the shop steward owes a great responsibility to his constituents. Like a congressman the steward has a broad responsibility of making democratic machinery (in this case, the union contract and its provisions) work toward obtaining a more democratic country in which the rights of every individual are recognized and assured.

In general, the shop steward has two main jobs—first, building a strong union in his shop; and, second, getting for the workers the fairest and best possible adjustment of wages and conditions within the framework of the particular contract under which his group is working.

This means that the shop steward has an important responsibility in making collective bargaining work.

Racket Sheet Suppressed by Evansville AFL

EVANSVILLE—R. J. Fuller, managing editor and founder of "The Labor Times," has been permanently enjoined from "publishing a newspaper stating that it is the Tri-State's leading independent labor paper and from representing that such paper is published on behalf of the American Federation of Labor, the Central Labor Union, or any union affiliated therewith," by Probate Court Judge F. Wendell Lansing.

Suit for an injunction was filed on evidence of acts prejudicial to the ethics of AFL unions by Chester B. Smallwood, Charles Willis and Ben Young, trustees of the Evansville Central Labor Union.

"The Labor Times," its columns filled with local advertising, made its first appearance in December of last year as a Christmas number.

AFL Advocates Voters' Holiday

WASHINGTON—AFL leaders, meeting recently in a Washington conference, resolved to promote the designation of November 2, 1948 as a national labor holiday, so that workers the country over can go to the polls and vote for political candidates favorable to labor.

The resolution is contained in a 6-point program of defense against the Taft-Hartley Bill, which was adopted after President William Green had stated that the unions, "will never stop fighting until the Taft-Hartley act is repealed and those who voted for it are defeated."

Respecting the labor holiday the program says:

"In order that the workers of the nation may be accorded full and complete opportunity to vote in national elections, we recommend that our organizations set aside this day (Nov. 2, 1948) as a holiday to be devoted solely for election purposes."

Mullins to Represent Taximen at Convention

EVANSVILLE—Taxi Drivers Local No. 11 will be represented by H. W. Mullins, president of the union, at the convention of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers of America to be held August 11 in San Francisco, Calif.

Mr. Mullins will have the distinction of being the first delegate from the local organization attending a convention of the International Union.

Membership in Local No. 11 has more than doubled since the war. Two companies, Yellow Cab Company and Liberty Cab Corp., are now operating in the city.

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STEVEN TOTH

News Aplenty at 520

C. B. Farster of Samocki Bros., sent me a photo of the fish he caught on the river I still don't believe it.

Big Mike Opperman of Calumet Iron is not very talkative since his wife brought back that nice mess of fish from Wisconsin.



The following members were elected delegates to the Indiana State Federation Convention ... Kal Borstis of McKeown, Joe Burba and Frank Novak of Justak's, Geo. Adams of Adams & Sons, Matt Johnson of Kellogg's, W. Kubisz of Certified, and Frank Potocak and me.

Matt Johnson and W. Kubisz will represent 520 at the State Building Trades Convention.

Frank Novak is going fishing on Long Lake on his vacation. I noticed his tackle box ... the contents ... one hook, 10 ft. of store string, 4 cases of beer, 2 cases of ginger ale, 6 quart bottles filled with some brown liquid. He is not even going to get sunburned on the outside.

Matt Johnson traveled 2,500 miles on his vacation to look for those flying saucers, but misfortune overtook him. The day he could have seen those things flying around, he got a kink in his neck from looking down too long at a certain mahogany Bar ... Better luck next time, Matt.

Oil contract is almost settled.

Ready-Mix drivers have been offered 15 cents per hour.

Heavy Construction have offered 15 cents.

Commodity & Excavating Drivers have been offered 15 to 22 1/2 cents.

McKeown Contract is almost settled.

City Cartage has been settled with a 26 cent increase.

The Central Labor Union will have a Gigantic Parade at Hammond Labor Day. We are urging all our members to participate. The AFL wants this parade to be the largest Parade that was ever held in this region. We expect over 15,000 marchers ... Plus Floats and Trucks. BE SURE TO ATTEND...

The Big Celebration after the parade will be held at the Fair Grounds at Crown Point ... Dancing to George Olsen's Band ... plus a two-hour show and three local Bands ... A 1947 CADILLAC car will be given away. Chances on the car are sold by all B. A.'s at One Dollar per ticket ... COME OUT AND HAVE FUN ... BRING THE FAMILY.

Costs of Crashes

A study in Lansing, Michigan, of the direct economic costs of some 2,500 accidents in that city during one year showed the bill totalled \$414,000.

The survey covered such items as salary lost because of injury, time lost in other ways, medical bills, and auto repair bills. In 2,200 accidents involving only property damage, there was a salary loss of \$16,500, and auto repairs came to another \$227,000.

In 203 accidents injuring car occupants, the salary loss was \$28,560, medical bills came to \$14,020, and auto repair cost \$44,000.

By types of accidents, these were the average costs for each accident: Property damage, \$115; car occupant injury accidents, \$470; pedestrian injury accidents, \$350, and fatal accidents, \$1,830.

Many indirect costs, if they could be computed, would make the total losses much greater, authorities believe.

In studying the accident causes, it was found that 75 per cent of the drivers, 85 per cent of the passengers and 87 per cent of the pedestrians blamed faulty driving as the major cause of the accidents in which they were involved.

The Truck Driver

By LUTHER PATRICK

I see the smokestacks of the throbbing city,
I see the farmer tilling with his trusty plow,
The merchant as he opens wide his portals,
The widow with her chickens and her cow.

I see the sun come walking 'cross the hilltops,
I see the river in her scarf of fog,
The workman trudging to the smoking workshop,
The hunter in the valley with his gun and dog.

But the sight that looms above all others,
Or the one that I like most to see,
Is a girl who smiles a smile from some veranda,
And waves a friendly hand to lonesome me.

Bulletin No. 1 Cont. Explaining Taft-Hartley Law

(Here are the second and third installments of the first bulletin issued by the American Federation of Labor explaining the Taft-Hartley Act. It was prepared by the office of its General Counsel, Joseph A. Paduano.)

4. ARE UNIONS IMMEDIATELY LIABLE FOR ENGAGING IN BOYCOTTS, JURISDICTIONAL STRIKES OR BREACHES OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING?

Yes. Boycotts and jurisdictional strikes are dealt with in two different titles of the law, Title I and Title III. Under Title I they are made unfair labor practices which may be prohibited by the Labor Board, and, also, the Labor Board is required to seek an immediate injunction restraining them. Under Title III any person who is injured by such boycotts and jurisdictional strikes may sue for damages. Title I does not become effective until August 22, 1947. But Title III becomes immediately effective. Therefore, boycotts and jurisdictional strikes prohibited by the law exposes unions to immediate suits for damages.

Similarly, suits for breach of contract are dealt with in Title III and hence they too, will subject unions to immediate damage suits in the federal courts. Accordingly, and for the further reason that the ability of unions to police their agreements by disciplining employees engaging in wildcat strikes has been virtually destroyed under the new law it is suggested that unions hereafter refrain from agreeing to no-strike clauses in collective bargaining agreements. We give this advice reluctantly, but the restrictions placed upon labor organizations under the new law leave us no alternative.

It should be noted in connection with the question of boycotts and jurisdictional strikes that the law does not prohibit every kind of boycott and every jurisdictional strike. Specifically, the act outlaws any strike or inducement to strike against an employer, or refusal to work on or handle his goods, if an object of such action is any of the following:

1. To require any employer or a self-employed person to join a labor or employer organization.
2. To require any employer to cease using, selling or transporting the products of any other employer, or to cease doing business with any other person.
3. To require some other employer to bargain with a labor organization which has not been certified by the Labor Board as the representative of that other employer's employees.
4. To require any employer to bargain with a labor organization where another labor organization has already been certified by the Labor Board as the representative of his employees.
5. To require any employer to assign work to one particular labor organization rather than to another (unless the employer is failing to comply with an existing certification).

The foregoing is a summary of what kind of jurisdictional strikes and boycotts unions cannot engage in. Other strikes against employers for pure economic objectives, such as improvements in wages and working conditions, engaged in by the unions representing the employees of such employers, are not restricted by the new law except to the extent that they might involve national emergencies and except with respect to notices discussed below.

In respect to what type of jurisdictional strikes or boycotts unions may now engage in, in spite of the provisions of the new law, it is possible at the present time to state only as follows:

1. A union may strike or picket a particular employer for recognition as the representative of that employer's employees if no other union has been certified for only some of the employer's employees in one unit, a union may strike to obtain representation rights in respect to the other employees in other units.
2. Union members may, acting individually or through their union, refuse to purchase the products of an unfair employer and advise and request others to refrain from purchasing such products. This can be accomplished by appeals in the form of handbills, radio, speech, or picketing addressed solely to the consuming public, requesting the public not to purchase unfair products.
3. Members of a union which has been certified as the bargaining representative may engage in a jurisdictional strike if the employer assigns their work to any other group of employees.
4. Other types of customary boycotts involving peaceful picketing and peaceful refusal to work, such as refusal to work on or transport non-union-made goods or unfair products, are apparently outlawed by the new law, but the constitutionality of such a prohibition is in doubt. Test cases will undoubtedly arise in the near future, and the American Federation of Labor will coordinate and assist in such cases. In the meantime, unions are warned that violations subject them to lawsuits for damages.

The question of what boycotts and jurisdictional strikes are unlawful is a very complicated one. It will be further discussed in another bulletin to be issued in the near future. For the present the foregoing will suffice.

5. WHEN SHOULD UNIONS SERVE WRITTEN NOTICE UPON EMPLOYERS OF THE PROPOSED TERMINATION OR MODIFICATION OF COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS?

Title I of the new law requires any party to a collective agreement to give written notice to the other party of any proposed termination or modification 60 days prior to the expiration date of the agreement. Where the agreement has no fixed expiration date, the notice must be given 60 days prior to the time it is proposed to terminate or modify.

Parties to labor agreements are also required to give notice to the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service and to any State Mediation and Conciliation Agency within 30 days after the notice to the other party if within that time no agreement has been reached.

Failure to give these notices constitutes an unfair labor practice, and any strike during the 60-day period causes every striking employee to lose his status as an employee, and hence his protection under the act.

Unions having agreements which will expire within 50 days after Aug. 22, 1947, are faced with an immediate problem. Technically, none of the amendments in Title I of the act become effective until Aug. 22, 1947, and, therefore, some may suggest that no notices will be required until Aug. 22. However, if a union has a contract which expires, say, on Aug. 24, 1947, it may be subjected to the penalties described above because it had not given timely notices to the employer and to government agencies. Therefore, to be on the safe side, it is recommended that all unions having agreements that will expire within 50 days after Aug. 11, 1947, regard the notice provisions of the law, as though they became effective immediately on June 23, 1947. This recommendation should not confuse those unions having agreements that will expire before Aug. 22, 1947. As to such agreements, no notice whatever will be required, unless of course the agreement itself provides for notice.

6. MAY UNIONS BE GUILTY OF UNFAIR LABOR PRACTICES BEFORE AUGUST 22, 1947?

No. As indicated above, Title I of the act does not become effective prior to August 22, 1947. However, to avoid any misunderstanding, we repeat that unlawful boycotts, jurisdictional strikes and breaches of agreements are dealt with in Title III and hence subject unions to immediate damage suits; and we repeat, too, our recommendation respecting termination or modification of agreements that expire within 50 days after August 22, 1947.

7. WHAT REPORTS, AFFIDAVITS, ETC., MUST UNIONS FILE BEFORE THEY MAY SECURE ANY RELIEF FROM THE LABOR BOARD?

As before stated, Title I which establishes the new Labor Board, prescribes unfair practices for unions, and requires the filing of reports and affidavits as a condition of obtaining relief under the act, is not effective until August 22, 1947. Therefore, there is no need to be immediately concerned with the filing of reports and affidavits, because these need not be filed until August 22. Further information and advice concerning the filing of such reports will be sent out in a subsequent bulletin.

8. WHAT LIMITATIONS DOES THE LAW IMPOSE ON THE POLITICAL ACTIVITY OF LABOR UNIONS?

Labor organizations as such (but not officers or members thereof acting personally and on their own behalf) are prohibited from making any contribution or "expenditure" in connection with the election of any Federal legislator such as Senator, Congressman or other Federal official. This prohibition applies to regular elections, primary elections, political conventions or political caucuses involving Federal candidates. The prohibition clearly forbids direct or outright money contributions to a political candidate and also includes a contribution of anything of value, such as a donation made directly to the candidate, and for his own use, of literature, radio time, paid ads, use of meeting halls for speeches to the public (but not speeches to union members), etc.

Thus far the act is clear. However, by the addition to the above bold face word "expenditure" to the previously existing law, it may be claimed that the prohibition extends to any type of expenditure whatsoever made in connection with any Federal political election or nomination, such as, for instance, expenditure of money by a labor organization to publish a labor newspaper setting forth a candidate's qualifications or lack of qualifications, or the hiring of radio time or newspaper space for a union's own use to urge the election or defeat of a political candidate. If that is the intent of Congress in amending the Corrupt Practices Act through the Taft-Hartley Act, then it is our firm opinion that the law as so applied would be illegal and unconstitutional as an invasion of the freedom of speech and press guaranteed as a civil liberty under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. In recently declaring unconstitutional a comparable law proposed for referendum in the State of Massachusetts, the Massachusetts Supreme Court, in a unanimous decision, stated as follows:

"But under the proposed law the political activities of labor unions are not regulated or curbed, but are substantially destroyed. Deprived of the right to pay any sum of money for the rental of a hall in which to hold a public rally or debate, or for printing or circulating pamphlets, or for advertising in newspapers, or for buying radio time, a union could not carry on any substantial and effective political activity. It could not get its messages to the electorate. Its rights of freedom of the press and of peaceable assembly would be crippled." (Howe v. Secretary of the Commonwealth, 69 N. E. (2) 115, decided September 20, 1946.)

Under the Bill of Rights any union whose purpose it is to further its own social and economic program by seeking the election of candidates favorable to such program and the defeat of candidates unfavorable to such program has full freedom to use the facilities of press, radio, handbill or speech to accomplish its objective, and no law can flatly and unqualifiedly destroy this freedom.

We therefore advise that, in connection with either a caucus, convention, primary election or final election, labor organizations may expend such funds as they desire to compile and distribute to their membership and affiliates and to the public the voting records, speeches, or other statements of Federal candidates; the unions may purchase radio time and discuss the merits and demerits of candidates and their platform in relation to labor's welfare; unions may print or have printed newspaper ads or articles containing similar discussions; they may send officers and organizers to make speeches at union as well as public meetings and may pay for advertising and hall hire of such meetings; they may even invite a candidate to appear at such meeting if the purpose is to have him explain his position on matters of interest to labor. In short, labor unions may continue to engage in all the ordinary activities (except, of course, direct financial contributions to political candidates as discussed above) which in the past had customarily been engaged in by them affecting political candidates and parties, when the union's purposes is further undertaken without agreement or arrangement with any candidate.

Labor Gets .22 Of \$1.75 Hike In Ton of Coal

Coal prices have been jacked up from 75 cents per ton to as high as \$1.75 per ton, and operators claim the great increase is due to increased wages paid to coal diggers.

We have a right to know how the operators reached their conclusions.

Miners achieved pay increases of \$1.20 per day more than they received prior to July 1, 1947. On the basis of 5.4 tons of coal produced per man day (based on government reports) this increase then would be only 22.2 cents per ton. Add another five cents for welfare fund increases to that, and the total is still only 27.2 cents per ton increase.

How, therefore, can the operators explain the increases of 75 cents and \$1.75 per ton? We'd like the answer.

REP. HALLECK REPUDIATED IN HOME DISTRICT

Voters of Jasper County, Indiana, enraged at Congressman Charles A. Halleck for his anti-labor activities in Washington, are raking up his past, with a view to retiring him from politics.

An article in the Terre Haute "Advocate" an AFL publication, reprinted in the "Leader," official publication of the State Federation of Labor, charges virtually that Halleck made a fortune when prosecuting attorney at Rensselaer by not prosecuting people with money to buy him off.

Congressman Halleck, who helped kill price controls and helped promote the Taft-Hartley Bill only escaped the penitentiary by pleading the statute of limitations, the articles asserts.

The article is as follows:

Five hundred Republicans in Jasper County are organizing to defeat Charles A. Halleck, their congressman. In a widely distributed letter they charge him with being "the worst political crook we ever knew. A man that only escaped the penitentiary by pleading the Statute of Limitations, which only means he was not arrested soon after the crime and this while he was prosecuting attorney."

However, the 500 Republicans allege that his lifelong chum was arrested while he was county auditor and sentenced to two years' imprisonment.

"We are 500 sleepy farmers," the letter goes on, "We should have acted before, but some said the skunk would stink himself to death! Now we are raising \$10,000 to push it out."

"He entered the prosecutor's office a pauper. He left office a rich man. Thousands of dollars did Halleck collect from people under threat of prosecution. Court house records prove the truth and justice of his arrest, and will always stand as witnesses against this evil man."

"This is our first warning to the Republican party. If Charles A. Halleck's name is entered anywhere on the Republican ticket in 1948, his life's record will be exposed by the opposition party. This man never did one good thing for them, all farmers say. He has always fought labor. Let's fight him!"

14,800,000 UNDER CONTRACT

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that during 1946 14,800,000 workers were employed under collective bargaining contracts. This number represents about half of the workers employed in occupations which unions have been organizing.

Wash Hands Before Eating Urged as Polio Precaution

Parents should see that children wash hands thoroughly before eating as one precaution against polio, particularly during the summer epidemic season, according to the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

The National Foundation through its local chapter is issuing a series of six simple health rules that should be observed during the summer to help combat the disease.

Scientific studies, financed by March of Dimes funds, indicate that the hands may be a means of spreading the virus infection through contamination of food, drinks or objects carried to the mouth.

For this reason, a high standard of personal cleanliness should be maintained especially during the polio danger months—late June through September, the National Foundation cautions, adding that fresh fruit and vegetables should be washed well before eating.



SWEDE WAECHTER

Up to Date with 188

Abe Lincoln said to Congress in 1861: "Labor is prior to, and independent of capital. Capital is only the fruit of labor, and could never have existed if labor had not first existed. Labor is the superior of capital, and deserves much the higher consideration."



This is too good to hold any longer and I must tell it now. We have a new secretary to our President, Brother Davis, by the name of Rosemary Nolte. What I am trying to tell you is, she really is Union minded. I ask her whom she took milk from and of course she told me some scabby company and I almost blew my top. So she had us get her a Capital Driver to serve her. Ha! She won't even eat doughnuts now unless they are Union. I wish all our members would follow this practice. Demand Union made and delivered products.

Mr. and Mrs. Laurel Rood of Real Pie have a new baby boy. Congratulations folks!

Joke

Joe:—I want to change my name, your honor.

Judge:—What is your name?

Joe:—Joe Stinks.

Judge:—I don't blame you. What do you want to change it to?

Joe:—Charlie.

Another Joke

"Mother, may I have another cake?"

"Another cake what?"

"Another cake please."

"Please what?"

"Please, Mother, dear."

"Hell, no, child, you've had two already."

President Davis just signed a new agreement for all Garage employees at the Major Bakeries with a 15 cents increase for mechanics and helpers, a 10 cents increase for grease, tire, gasoline and battery men.

Received a nice letter from Wiley Carpenter of Indiana Condensed Milk at Sheridan as a result of my request for news from out-of-town stewards. Wiley stated that things were very quiet at Sheridan and not much news. Well, it's swell to hear from you anyway, Wiley, tell the gang hello.

Don't forget to register, so you can vote and defeat the enemies of Labor.

HAVE IT DELIVERED UNION!

Champion Truck Drivers To Compete in ATA Rodeos

(Continued from page 1)

each national winner is awarded a handsome trophy, which he retains as long as he can defend his title successfully, and another trophy which is his to keep. Each national champion receives \$50 a month for a year; the runnerup in each class receives \$30, and the third man in each class receives \$20 for twelve months.

Main qualifications required of a truck driver before he may compete for the championship are that he must have been employed by his present employer for at least one year at the time the entry is made and shall have been domiciled in the state in which the entry is made for the same period. He also must show a record free from chargeable accidents during the twelve months prior to the date of receipt of his entry blank for the state Rodeo, for any accident-free truck drivers are eligible to compete.

A fleet contest is held by individual companies to select representative drivers for the state contest. Complete details on this and other phases of the competition may be obtained from the state association or ATA.

Assuming that a driver wins the title in his class in the state championship, what are some of the things he is up against in the National?

He will be performing before a crowd of thousands. A band will be playing. A nationally known radio announcer will be standing by. And some three score state champion truck drivers—the class of the land—will be on the field.

There is a personal inspection. It pays the driver to be especially trim, neat, correct, courteous, and polite here.

Then there is a written examination. I. C. C. Safety Regulations comprise the subject. Plenty of right answers must be checked to win.

Now some questions on safe driving, safe practices, etc. Here are examples of some of those used in the past:

"If your rear wheels skid to the left, would you—Step on the brakes? Cut front wheels to the right? Cut front wheels to the left? Hold straight ahead?"

"When does a pedestrian have the right-of-way—Always? At intersections? In the middle of the block? Never?"

More questions, this time on first-aid.

Now come the "field events." Several defects have been rigged in the equipment to be inspected and the driver is given a card and pencil and told to make inspection and note all the defects he can find.

Another event is the "operating test." The driver may be asked to assume he is driving on a city street and must back into the curb, the only space available being between two parked cars parallel with the curb; it is just sufficient to accommodate the width of the trailer. He is to back in and leave the tractor at full jackknife so as not to block traffic.

Picnic for Local 414 Members

FORT WAYNE — Plans for the annual picnic of Teamsters Local 414 have been announced by Pat Hess, union head, in a letter to all members, saying:

"This is to notify you of our annual picnic to be held Sunday, August 31, starting at 10 a.m. at the Log Cabins, located two miles west of Fort Wayne on the Bass Road, or better known as Leesburg Road.

"John Hampshire will be the general chairman this year and he will appoint the various committees to make our picnic a success. We will have fried chicken with all the

SAFETY AWARDS GIVEN TAXIMEN IN EVANSVILLE

EVANSVILLE—Sixty Yellow Taxicab drivers, members of Taxicab Drivers Local No. 11, were presented with safe-driving awards at two meetings held at the Vendome hotel here. For the convenience of the drivers, part of the awards were made at a dinner held at noon and the others at an evening dinner.

Wayne M. Timmons, supervisor of Purdue University's fleet safety program, was guest speaker. He declared that there is no wholesale solution of the present traffic safety problem. Traffic safety is the responsibility of the individual driver. The driver, he said, is to blame for 80 to 85 per cent of all accidents.

E. O. Noble, company president, said the company's 85 cabs have traveled their past 3,000,000 miles without a serious accident. One of the best records was hung up last December when 320,000 miles were driven without an accident.

Of those receiving awards, twenty-eight drivers had driven two years without a chargeable accident and thirty-two have driven one year with a similar record.

Two-year award winners:

Gene V. Dexter, Raymond Cavins, Royal Cavins, Lloyd Rhoads, Walter Ottman, Charles Wilson, Phalos Redmond, Thomas Reed, Earl Schaaf, Roy Carrier, William Kempf, Leo Brown, Roy Christman, Luther D. Cannon, Henry W. Mullins, Horace Mitchell, William Sanders, Arthur McBride, Martin Winiger, Clyde Uzzle, George Walden, Lora S. Mitchell, Leonard Finley, Monroe Townsend, Thomas Porter, Philip Bryant, August Witt and Ellis Overlin.

One-year award winners:

Bert Dexter, Robert Ohning, Dominic Amoroso, John Groscurth, Robert Spurrier, Raymond Tones, Paul Pirtle, Leo Beshear, Walter Trinkle, William Marshall, Wilfred Luttrull, John Dale, Melvin Connor, Lorenzo Padgett, William Bullock, Elmer Tyree, Jr., Marvin McCool, Robert Hollingsworth, Thomas C. Johnson, Clayton Patterson, Robert E. Taylor, Maurice Wheelhouse, Arden Dawson, Edward Ricketts, Ivan Folsom, John Nicholson, Okle F. Wallace, Alvin Carter, Leo Marshall, Monroe Mullin, Edgar Standridge and William R. Johnson.

trimmings, ice cream and plenty of pop for the children. There will be dancing in the afternoon and evening and ponies for the children.

"The committee has had quite a time finding a place to hold the picnic this year due to the fact that the Police Country Club is no longer for rent on Sundays and the various other places have no facilities for an organization of our size. But you can rest assured that we will all have a good time. Do not forget to bring the children and, as you know, this is only for our members and their immediate families."

The outing will last until 10 p.m.

O. B. CHAMBERS

So... This Is Kokomo

The next general meeting of Local Union 759 will be held at the Labor Temple, 512 East Sycamore St., Kokomo, September 6, at 8:00 P. M. All members are urged to attend.



We have finished our contracts with Omar Baking Co., which include separate contracts for drivers; also contracts for loaders and shippers and a contract covering mechanics, grease, tire and battery men, gasoline dispensers and washers. All three of these contracts have been completed with a nice increase for the people covered by them and with retroactive pay to June 1, 1947.

We have completed the Shell American Bulk plant contract, which did not expire until September 1 and provisions of new contract were made retroactive to July 1, 1947.

The Shell American Transport contract which is a blanket contract between Local Union 759 of Kokomo and Local Union 293 of Michigan City, is still in process of negotiation and to date has not been settled. We expect, however, to have this settled in the next few days. This contract does not expire until November 1, 1947, but the company has agreed to make it retroactive to July 1, 1947.

We have settled the beer contract covering the beer drivers, with a nice increase for the drivers, which contract did not expire until September 9.

We wish to extend our sympathy to the family of Earl McCarter who died July 18. He was an employee of the Miller Beverage Co. in Kokomo and a very good member of Local 759 and we know he will be missed very much.

The Armour employes in Rochester, elected new committeemen. They are: Byron Zimmerman, Wm. Billman and Wilbur Craig. We urge all of our members at the Armour Co. in Rochester to cooperate with these committeemen 100 per cent.

We have opened the contract covering the men at National Cylinder Gas Co. and are now in negotiations.

Lest we forget—Remember to register so you can vote in the coming elections and remember to elect the friends of labor.

Remember to check your bread man for his Union book and button. Union drivers are Colonial, Ward and Omar. Dietzert does not belong to the Union.

Drivers' Council Endorses Union Life Insurance Co.

(Continued from page 1)

Labor Life Insurance Co. from the many Locals of the IBT to which it already extends insurance protection that the cost for group insurance in any one Local should be about between 80 cents and 90 cents per month per \$1,000. All members, of course, pay the same premium and thus the younger men assist in providing protection for the older men or for his brother members, who, unfortunately, because of some physical disability cannot qualify for insurance of any character.

The Union Labor Life Insurance Co., Mr. Collins repeated was formed for service and not for profit and is a participating company in that the policyholders participate in any profits or earnings that accrue from the contract. In other words, if a Local Union insures its membership through the company and at the end of the year, there is a considerable excess of premiums over claims paid, then the company returns to them a cash dividend which would thus reduce the cost of the insurance for the entire membership.

Local Gets Dividend

For instance, in the case of Local 251 of Providence, R. I., with a membership of approximately 3,000, the dividend experience in 1944 of \$16,564 reduced the net cost of the insurance to 33 cents per member per \$1,000. That Union was paying a rate of 74 cents per member per \$1,000 per month and this has been the experience generally of all of the Locals of our International insured with the company.

The Home Office of The Union Labor Life Insurance Co. is located at 570 Lexington Avenue, New York, and they have departments established to furnish information to trade union organizations without cost or obligation. The company feels keenly appreciative of the fine and splendid cooperation extended by the Teamster's Union said Mr. Collins and assures the Local Unions of Indiana of the

finest service that can be possible in the administration of the insurance trust in prompt settlement of claims and the complete understanding of all problems involved.

Free enterprise requires joint action. Merchants must sell Union-made goods and union members will buy them.

Unless they purchase Union Label goods and use Union services, job security for union members cannot be assured.

Anti-labor members of Congress may come and go—but the Union Label cause will go on forever!

Closed Shop Out After August 22

If you're working under a closed shop contract here's how the Taft-Hartley law affects you:

If your contract expires before Aug. 22 it can be renewed—if the boss is willing.

A contract renewed before Aug. 22 is good for only one year. After that the closed shop is outlawed.

If your contract expires after Aug. 22 you can't negotiate another closed shop contract, but your present contract is valid to its expiration date.

These provisions apply to employees engaged in interstate commerce only, but this definition will probably be greatly broadened by proponents of the bill and challenged by the bill's opponents.

Apparently union shop contracts are not affected by the new law until they come up for renewal, at which time an election must be held. Unless a majority of all employees vote for a union shop it cannot be validated.